

New Testament Lesson

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, N.T., pg. 916

Anthem

Jesus Paid It All
The Motet Choir

Howard Helvey

Gospel Lesson

John 3:1-17, N.T., pg. 863

Sermon

For God So Loved...

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Kahnt

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*Hymn #435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

Offering of Self and Substance and Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Offertory

God So Loved the World (from "The Crucifixion")

John Stainer

*Offertory Response #711, vs. 3

*Father, whose bounty all creation shows; Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows: to You with grateful hearts ourselves we give.*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

It is our tradition to pray "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

DEPARTING TO SERVE

Hymn #546

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

SICILIAN MARINERS

*Charge and Blessing

*Postlude

Quiet Improvisation on SICILIAN MARINERS

Larry Harris

First Presbyterian Church

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www.fpcyo.org

We are on *Facebook!*

Second Sunday in Lent Time With Young Disciples

March 8, 2020

11:00 A.M.



Partners in Ministry

The Congregation

Pastor, Rev. Dr. Rebecca A. Kahnt

Clerk of Session, Jill McBride

Director of Music, Larry Harris

Administrative Assistant, JoEllen Kieffer

Property Manager, Dave Todd

Kitchen, Jean Shives and Michelle Shives

Children's Room and Kitchen, Janet Kessler

Financial Secretary, David Pratt

Custodian/Security, Jerry Fullum, David Phibbs,

Bryan Peterson, Don Jones, and Mike Bright

ORDER FOR THE PUBLIC WORSHIP OF GOD

*For those who are able, please stand.

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Bless us, O God, with a reverent sense of your presence, that we may be at peace and may worship you with all our mind and spirit. Amen.

Gathering Music #183 *Come to Me, O Weary Traveler* AUSTIN

****Please join the congregation as you enter, and sing along when you are seated.**

Welcome and Announcements

Moment for Mission *One Great Hour of Sharing* Donna Hageman

Call to Worship

Leader: From where will our help come?

People: Our help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Leader: Who is our keeper?

People: The Lord is our keeper, by day and by night.

Leader: How long will God protect us?

People: God will keep our going out and our coming in from this time on and forevermore.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

***Hymn #165** *The Glory of These Forty Days* ERHALT UNS, HERR

*Call to Confession

We cannot earn God's grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed but as a gift freely given. Confident in God's love for us, even when we are ungodly, we confess our sins in faith.

*Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Gracious God, we come before you in need of forgiveness and grace. You call us to trust in you completely, but we do not. We are timid and fearful as we follow your lead. We justify our actions and words, though we know they are not what you require. We struggle to understand the new life Christ offers, preferring old habits to risky change. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to be born again into the

life of Christ, trusting that you have included us by grace in the family of faith. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Worshippers may take a few moments for silent, personal prayer

***Assurance of Pardon and the Peace**

Friends, God is for us and not against us! For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Believe the good news, **in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

Worshippers may greet one another with signs of God's peace.

***Response #288**

Spirit of the Living God

*Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me*

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Time with Young Disciples

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 12:1-4a, O.T., pg. 8

Psalter Hymn

Psalm 121

Michael Black, cantor

Help comes on - ly from the Lord, the
mak - er of heaven and earth.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF **March 8, 2020**

Church office hours: 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Church building hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday and Friday.

Church building is open later Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

USHERS for the month of **March** are:

Sean Barron – Captain, Elizabeth Ayana, Michael Klaus, and Bryan Davis.

OUR GREETERS are *the Ushers.*

OUR LITURGIST is *Julius Balogh.*

ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS of First Presbyterian Church are reminded to please sign the pew pads located in the pew racks.

MISSION COINS (the loose change placed in the offering plate or money placed in an envelope marked “loose change offering”) for the month of **March** are being donated to *St. John’s Soup Kitchen.*

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS have been given *to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bob Dineen, by his wife, Ginny.*

WORSHIPERS ARE INVITED to continue our fellowship in the Garden Room following worship. **OUR HOST** is *Lynn Toman.*

MISSION INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE meets Monday, March 9th, at 10:00 a.m., in the Church Library.

BOOK CLUB meets Tuesday, March 10th, at 10:00 a.m., in the Parlor. The book to read for March is *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed.

GAME NIGHT! We are excited to announce that we will be having yet another Game Night on Friday, March 13th, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Join us for a night of Scrabble, Pictionary, Card Games and more. Bring your own snacks. Water, lemonade, iced tea and coffee will be furnished. If you have any questions, feel free to ask Pastor Becky or TJ Hudock.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in joining the congregation or finding out more information about the church, feel free to talk to Pastor Becky Kahnt or one of our Elders after worship.

FOR EVERYTHING THERE IS A SEASON and a time for every matter under the sun. The leadership of Gutknecht Towers Ministry is taking some time to rejuvenate, reimagine and revamp the ministry that we are called to do with our brothers and sisters in Christ there. While we are taking this time to discern what this ministry will look like, the Saturday afternoon ministry at Gutknecht from 2-4 p.m. on the Second Saturday each month will be taking a Sabbatical. The ministry at Gutknecht is still an important part of our work as a church and we are excited to see what God brings forth from this time of discernment. If you would like to be part of this conversation, feel free to reach out to Pastor Becky or Tracy Rudrick.

SOJOURN TO THE PAST invite you to a spaghetti dinner today, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at First Presbyterian Church. Tickets are \$9.00 for adults, and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Eat in and take out are available.

SOCIAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE: Persons who are homeless are visible in our cities and suburbs. During Lent the Social Justice Task Force invites you to DO something instead of giving up something. Please consider donating items listed below. The Social Justice Task Force will assemble these items into bags for the church to distribute as homeless people seek help here. These bags will also be available for church members to distribute as we encounter persons who are homeless. Items needed are band-aids with topical antibiotic ointment, body wipes, toothbrush, toothpaste, \$5 gift cards from Subway, deodorant, and soft granola bars. A basket will be available for these donations during Lent. Thank you in advance for your help in helping our neighbors who are hungry, thirsty, and in need (Matthew 25).

ELECTION BAKE SALE: Munching cookies is a great way to meet persons from our neighborhood who vote at our church. During the November 2019 election, the Mission Committee sponsored a Bake Sale for the benefit of our EECMY ministry. We interacted with our neighbors who arrived to vote as well as a host of other folks who call our church their work or service place. We also got to interact with the officials who worked for the Board of Elections. We enjoyed encounters with all these people and made some new friends. Please help us continue to be good neighbors and support our EECMY ministry by baking or purchasing a few dozen

cookies or cupcakes or any other simple “munch and go” items or by helping for a couple of hours during the voting day. Please contact Elizabeth Ayana or see her after Worship Service to sign up to donate goodies and/or help during voting hours

WEDNESDAY BOOK STUDY continues to be a time of wonderful fellowship, thoughtful conversation and inspiring insight into the books we are reading and God’s work in this world and in us. On Wednesday, March 18th, we will be meeting at the home of Alex and Kathy Esseniyyi, 5751 Sharon Drive, Youngstown, Ohio. Our book for this month’s discussion is *The Way of the Heart: Connecting with God through Prayer, Wisdom and Silence*, by Henri J.M. Nouwen. Join us for this conversation, great food and different perspectives along the way.

SUNDAY MORNING 9:45 BIBLE STUDY DURING LENT: Starting on Sunday, March 1, 2020, the Sunday morning 9:45 Bible Study has a social justice focus. The book we are studying is “So You Want to Talk About Race” by Ijeoma Oluo.

Why this book now? As the book promotional material describes: Widespread reporting on aspects of white supremacy -- from police brutality to the mass incarceration of Black Americans -- has put a media spotlight on racism in our society. Still, it is a difficult subject to talk about. How do you tell your roommate her jokes are racist? Why did your sister-in-law take umbrage when you asked to touch her hair -- and how do you make it right? How do you explain white privilege to your white, privileged friend?

If you wish to purchase a copy, they are available on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, or your favorite bookstore.

Please join us at 9:45 a.m. Sunday mornings from March 1 through April 5, 2020, in the Church Library on the second floor.

If you have any questions or would like to know even more about this study ahead of time, please feel free to speak to one of the members of the Social Justice Task Force -- Elizabeth Ayana, Pat Diamond, Patti Gruver, Becky Mallin and Jim Ray and/or Pastor Becky.

AS THE BODY OF CHRIST, we at the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown believe that we are called to care for one another out of the love God has entrusted in us. We do this for both our members and the stranger who walks through the door, as he/she is also our brother or sister in Christ. We believe that if someone comes to the Church in need, the best way to provide for that need is to encourage that individual to meet with the Pastor who will be able to provide them with the information that will be able to help them receive the appropriate support, whether it be financial, spiritual, or emotional. It is also our desire to care for our brothers and sisters who enter our building (whether for worship, work, or as a visitor) to know that they are welcome here with open arms to feel safe to be with family. Therefore, it is the policy of the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown Session that no member is to give money to someone in the church directly, but know that the money they put in the offering plate helps support the discretionary funds and several mission organizations that do that very work in caring for this important form of ministry.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING - Join with Presbyterians worldwide in sharing God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief from natural disasters, food for the hungry and support for the poor and oppressed. Our Mission Interpretation Committee has set a One Great Hour of Sharing goal of \$3,500. You can help "build our church" by donating to the 2020 OGHS offering. For each fifty dollars collected, a brick will be placed on our church poster. Half-bricks represent twenty-five dollars. The children in our congregation will be collecting coins for their fish banks. If you would like a fish bank of your own, they are available on the table in the garden room. The OGHS offering will be dedicated on Easter Sunday, April 12th.

CONTINUING TO PRAY FOR:

Peggy Tompkins, Scott Anderson (Donna Hageman's nephew), Janis DePasqua, Barbara Bestic (Betty Bestic's daughter-in-law), Bob Gesacion and Pat Grist (Patti Keenan), David Maniago (Emily Slaven), Rick Benson, Alessia Brown (Janis DePasqua), Debbie Osman (Chet Cooper's sister), Barb and Craig Maltby (Donna Hageman's sister and brother-in-law), Tina Scritchfield, Tammy Helmuth (Klaus), Amelia Khounthikoumane (Pat Diamond), Cheryl (Lynn Toman's sister), Ron Strasik (Renae Scharf), Sarver Family (Lynn Toman), Caleb (Barbara Altman's grandson), Barbara Altman, family of Rev. Al Shakley, Terry Murray, Robert Farrell (brother of Pat McCaughan), Eugene O. Loomis III, Jody Donoghue and Don Cercone (sister and brother of JoEllen Kieffer), Mary MacGregor Neff (Wilma Miller), Jim Wildish, Janet Trevathan; the Mineo family; staff, students and parents at Williamson School; Pickett family, Arlene Wright, Victor Wan-Tatah, Terry Gregory, Joyce Martin and Karen Stilgenbauer (Karen Cooper), Nancy Woodman, Marlen Sue Martin, Cindy Milicich, Bridget Benson, and Kristy Glover (Bege Bowers).

PRAYERS OF SYMPATHY are extended to the family and friends of Shannon Flauto, on the recent death of her mother, Linda Riley. Please hold Shannon and her family in your thoughts and prayers. A Memorial Service will be at FPC on Saturday, March 21, 2020, at 11:00 a.m., with visitation at 10:00 a.m. in the Parlor.

Prayer concerns from our friends at Gutknecht Tower: Jashawn family, Johanna B., Julie G., Vincent C., Linda S., Pat B., Gladys G., Donella, Charles, Alice Jones's nephew, Johnson family, Gaines family, and Stewart family.



EASTER FLOWERS

We continue the tradition of decorating our Sanctuary at Easter with your floral gifts in memory or in honor of family and friends.

We shall enjoy them on Easter Sunday, April 12th, after which time you may take your flower(s) home.

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

In Honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Please place your order by Monday, March 30, 2020

Send to:

First Presbyterian Church

201 Wick Avenue, Youngstown, Ohio 44503

Attn: JoEllen

_____ **6" Begonia - \$8.00**

_____ **6" Lily - \$8.00**